GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:532
ANSWERED ON:02.05.2002
LUXURIOUS PALACE ON WHEELS
ARUN KUMAR;KAMAL NATH

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that after seven years, the fully air-conditioned luxurious 'Palace on Wheels' train rolled out on board gauge and the Railways are yet to work out a mutually acceptable earning sharing ratio with the Rajasthan Tourism Development Corporation, resulting in substantial financial loss;

(a) if so, the details of losses suffered so far by the Railways as compared to gains to R.T.D.C.;

(b) the ratio of earnings agreed to; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to streamline the system of sharing?

Answer

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NITISH KUMAR)

(a) to (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 532 BY SHRI KAMA NATH AND SHRI ARUN KUMAR, TO BE ANSWERED ON 2.5.2002 REGARDING LUXURIOUS PALACE ON WHEELS.

(a) to (d) Since 1995 there was only a provisional remission of revenue on 50:50 basis by the Rajasthan Tourism Development Corporation (RTDC). There are no losses after 1997-98 even on the revenue sharing ratio of 50:50. It has now been mutually decided, in September 2001, to share the revenue in the ratio of 56:44 between the Indian Railways and the RTDC. The Agreement incorporating the above revenue sharing ratio will be effective from 1.4.2001. This will naturally improve the earnings of the Railways.